

REHEARSAL Of Observator, &c.

1. The Affair relating to Sir H. Ashurst.
2. The Affair of Sandwich, &c.
3. Mr. Burchet's Concern Referr'd to Himself.

From Saturday June the 23th, to Saturday June the 30th. 1705.

(1.) *Country-m.* I Am now come to clear some disputed matters, being always ready to do Justice to all sides. The following Letter was sent by Sir H. Ashurst, with Desire it might be inserted here. And thus it is, word for word,

Warrington June 6. 1705.

SIR,
"This comes to do you the Justice to
"Assert, that you sent not by me, nor did
"I deliver to Bro. Vandrey a Message from
"you, That it was past Twelve a Clock with
"the Church of England, as by Law Estab-
"lish'd."

I am, Sir,
Your Affectionate and Humble
Servant Tho. Ashurst.

"For Sir Hen. Ashurst
"Barr. at Kensington
"near London."

Obs. Well, but thou Promis'd'st likewise to let us know what thy *Intelligence* in the Country said for himself. We expect, That he should own himself a Liar, or else Justify what he has said, and Produce Witnesses too. That we be not Flamm'd off with such Idle Stories. But let Full Justice be done. And shew not thy self Partial to one side more than another.

Country-m. I will not. But let thee know all that I know of the Matter. Thus then says my *Intelligence* (as thou Call'st him) to his Friend here, from whom I had it, and whom I desir'd to write to him about it.

"Yours, Dear Sir, of the 2d. of June,
"came to me on the 4th. And on the 5th
"I went to Warrington, and met with Mr.
"Vandrey, and Casually with Mr. Ashurst too.
"They are not willing to give any such
"thing under their Hands, because of the
"Relation betwixt 'em. Yet they do both
"own it. And indeed it is to no Purpose
"to deny it, having both of them declar'd
"the Message so often. Mr. Patten is not
"against having his Name made Publick.
"He Adheres, to the very words he Wrote
"in his Letter to me. And has Declar'd
"himself upon it again, in the Presence of
"two Credible Witnesses: which Witnesses
"have Certify'd the same on the Back of his
"Letter to me, in this Form.

"Thomas Patten of Warrington, who
"writ this Letter, owns the Truth
"of this Letter in the Presence
"of Us
"Edward Alanfon Curate of Newton
"in the Parish of Winnick.
"John Goulborne.

June 5. 1705.

Obs. Where is this Letter of Mr. Patten's? How do we know what that Letter says?

Country-m. That is it which I Printed in an Advertisement last May 19th. N. 42. And it was then sign'd Thomas Patten. But yet I did not think it Proper to put any Gentlemans Name in Print, without his own Express Leave. Which now having obtain'd, as you see, I set it down. And this Shews, That I took not up that Story, without sufficient Grounds, which now I have been Forc'd to Publish for my own Vindication.

But my Letter go's on, and says,
"In the Presence of the same Thomas Patten
"and Edward Alanfon Mr. Ashurst of Ashurst
"Declar'd, that there was no Letter sent from
"Sir H. Ashurst; That it was a Message
"only. And that Sir H. Ashurst did bid
"him tell his Cousen Vandrey 'Twas past Twelve
"a Clock with the Church of England. All
"which will be Attested by More, if there be
"a Necessity for it.

Thus the Letter, which I have by me. And I hope will be a sufficient Vindication of me, in this Matter; to which I have been Brought very Unwillingly, to Chase Stories. But that became Necessary, when otherwise I must lie under the Aspersions of Inventing Stories, or taking them up too Lightly.

I have told the Naked Fact on Both sides. Without any Comments of my own. I have not Refus'd to Publish any Paper sent me, that might help to Clear up the Truth, as well on the One side, as on the Other.

Obs. But how Can'st thou Reconcile the Letter of Mr. Ashurst with the Account given in thy Letter?

Country-m. That ly's not upon me. I only tell plain matter of Fact, as it stands on Both sides. But I observe some certain words in Mr. Ashurst's Letter, viz. [As by Law Established] which are not in Mr. Patten's Letter, or any Account I have given of this Matter. And then those Words being put in, it may be said, That it was not so said. And no Body says it was. But I will not Anticipate what Mr. Ashurst, or any other has to say, in their own Defence. Nor will I Limit how far any Gentleman may go, to Gratifie a Relation.

(2.) *Obs.* But come thou Draknsfor, look about thee! Here's Another upon thy Back! Our Moderator of the 20th Instant N. 6. who says, We hope that Enough has been said as to the SANDWICH business, but the REHEARSER having, since then, been so very Impudent as (contrary to all Truth) to Insert Affidavits about it; Maliciously and Wickedly designing thereby, to Ruine a whole Corporation at once.

Country-m.

Country-m. Hold! Hold! Let me Answer by Parcels. I shall Forget half the Charge. First, as to the Design of Raising a whole Corporation. And at Once too! To Swallow them All at a Bit! I can tell thee, That this Rehearser is not half so Terrible a Fellow as thou tak'st him to be! He had none of these Bloody Thoughts in his Head. He had no Design at all against the Corporation. All he meant was, to shew the Bitter, Anti-Monarchical, Old Oliverian-Republican-Spirit, that Reigns in the Whiggs and Dissenters (some of which may be in the Corporation of Sandwich, as well as in Coventry, and other Places, not Excepting London or Westminster) And how that Spirit of Betial, the Enemy of all Order or Government, has of late Dar'd to shew its Face more Boldly and Licentiously than even in the Late Reign. From what Reason I will not here pretend to Guess. Nor so far Impose upon my Reader's Understanding, as to say what the Consequence must be, if these Principles be Indulg'd, and let Grow and Prosper among us.

But now, cannot a Man tell of a Whigg or a Dissenter in such a Corporation, but it must be Improv'd to no Less than a very Quo Warranto against their Charter? Is that a sufficient Reason to Dissolve a Corporation? Let the Moderator make his Words Good! Or talk no more of Moderation! One would expect Moderation from a Moderator! But he Spits Fire like the Best on 'em!

And having, among others, Attack'd the Rehearsal, and given him the Lye, about the Story in Sandwich, now says (only by way of Moderation!) That it was very Impudently, Maliciously, and Wickedly done of him, to Produce Affidavits to Prove the Truth of it! But for this, the Moderator has already Receiv'd his Correction in the Whipping-Post, the 19th Instant N. 2. Therefore I Spare him.

Obf. But he says, he has Affidavits, to confront thy Affidavits.

Country-m. Where are they?

Obf. At Mrs Malbus's, the Publisher of his Paper.

Country-m. That is to say, Go Look — If they had been to the Purpose, no Doubt, we shou'd have had them!

Obf. But he Inserts a long Letter wrote to him from Sandwich, and Commending his Paper, as an Honest and Useful Paper. By which we may know it comes from the Honest and Useful Party there! He has set down no Names of Subscribers. But it is in the Plural Stile of WE. Whereby we may suppose if we Please, that it was wrote by the whole Town, or a Considerable Part of them.

Country-m. See thou Read Right. Is it not Dated from Gotham? Who else cou'd have Objected, That the REHEARSAL produces only the Affidavit of one person relating to Mr. BRANCH; when that Affidavit tells, That there were none Present with Mr. Elsted and Mr. Branch, when the words were Spoke? And the Letter adds, by way of Aggravation, And he the very same too, who had the Dispute with him (Branch) at SANDOWN Gate. When the said Affidavit is so very Particular as to tell, That it was full three and Thirty Rods without and from the said Gate, that Mr. Branch overtook Mr. Elsted, and fell into Discourse with him, when he utter'd the Words objected. And to shew how Careful Mr. Elsted was of what he Swore, he had the Distance MEASUR'D before he made his Af-

fidavit. Which is likewise mention'd in the Affidavit.

But there is a very Useful, tho' not Quite so Honest a Stroke in that Letter, which is That the Town of SANDWICH is already Unhappy, by reason of such Inhabitants! — Who were these? It tells after, those who Lost it at the Election. And that in Revenge of that, they Rais'd these Stories upon the Honest Part of that Town!

This is wholesome Doctrine! That where Whiggs or Dissenters Prevail, no Churchmen must Live among them. Else, they will be always Unhappy, by reason of such Inhabitants! They are Spies upon them, and tell Tales!

Obf. But Moderator has Added a Certificate, which he says, Do's directly Contradict all that Mr. REHEARSAL has said.

Country-m. It Contradicts not one Word of it. Only shews the Shuffling and Caring of a Party who Struggle to Death under the Weight of Truth.

They Produce a Sham Flag. Have sent it up to London, and it was Shew'd at Admiralty-Office, and at last 'tis got to Mrs. Malbus's House to be seen in the Hands of the worthy Moderator, now Advocate General for the Cause. But the Affidavits I have already Produc'd have Obviated this True Whigg Trick. For this Sham-Flag was shew'd first at Sandwich. And in the Affidavits taken there, it is Sworn, that this was not the Flag they saw Hung out, unless Alter'd since. And suppose two or three shou'd Swear that they did not see this Flag Hung, out? Which may easily be. I doubt not there were many in Town at that Time of Election, who did not see it, or or take Notice of it. But what is all this, to the Positive Affidavits of those who did See it, and took Such exact notice of it, as to be Able to Swear so very particularly to it.

If such a Scir had not been made in so many Printed Papers, the first Relation cou'd have gone no further than the Act of some few Hot-Headed Republican Zenits, and In-Considerable enough. And had not Affected the Corporation. But now the Party Espousing the Cause, and giving us a Fresh Instance of their Method of Sincerity, in Dealing with Truth, in Shamming and Covering the Vilest of their Actions, and making the Extravagance of the most In-Significant among them a Party Cause, and throwing Dirt upon all the Friends of the Church; it is become a Party-Cause And let them take it for their Pains. And if the Corporation owns that Senseless and Seditious Letter Inserted in the Moderator, they deserve whatever Mark the Government is pleas'd to put upon them. If not, let them Disown their Moderator, Or He them. And let the Friends of the Church and the Morality take Courage, and not be Run Down with Noise and Nonsense, while the full Plain Truth is on their side.

(3.) And there being but one Man of Reputation (that I hear of) who has been Nam'd in this Shamefull Cause, that is, Mr. Burchet the Secretary of the Admiralty; and whom I have heretofore Mention'd with Honour, in Vindication of Sir George Rook; I leave it to him to do himself Justice upon the Author of that Scandalous Paper call'd a Vindication of the Corporation of SANDWICH, which has Presum'd to make use of his Name, in a Cause, which he cannot but know will not bear the Test. And in which, if he thinks fit, he need not be Concern'd.